**Use of Hindi in Formal Meetings with Diplomats**

529. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many countries of the world use their own language on formal meeting with delegations of the other countries with the help of interpreters;

(b) if so, whether our diplomats/delegations also use Hindi on such occasions; and

(c) if not, whether the Government would issue instructions to use Hindi on such formal meetings with foreign delegates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) In a number of countries, English is the preferred language of communication in formal meetings with delegations of other countries. Some countries use their own language in such meetings and interpretation is normally in one of the six languages used in the United Nations.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Our diplomats and delegations also use Hindi at formal meetings as far as possible. Necessary instructions regarding promotion and propagation of Hindi abroad are being issued from time to time.

**Foreign visits by Ministers after Budget Session**

†530. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministers in Government of India had undertaken foreign visits immediately after conclusion of Budget session on Parliament;

(b) if so, the number and names of such Ministers alongwith the countries to which they had visited;

(c) what was the specific reasons for these foreign visits made by Ministers at a time when the country is passing through a difficult

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.